**PROTECT. SERVE. CARE** 

## **NEWS RELEASE**

July 3, 2012

For further information, contact: Jenna McCulley, Public Information Coordinator, at 541.682.5197, or Melinda McLaughlin, APR, Public Information Director, at 541.682.5124

## Public Safety Advisory – Second and third hand information points to rapes near Autzen Stadium and Chase Village

Police have learned from second and third hand sources that there may have been three separate rapes within a five-day period near Chase Village and Autzen Stadium, beginning Thursday, June 28. No female victims have come forward or wish to file a report, so the information is unverified.

Due to the seriousness of the information, which seems credible, Eugene Police Department is advising residents and visitors in the area to observe personal safety precautions as well as to report any relevant information by calling 541.682.5111.

The information received is as follows:

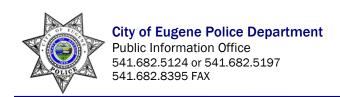
In one incident on June 29, a woman was walking alone around 10 p.m. on the bike path near Autzen Stadium when she was raped by a man with a knife. The suspect is described as a black male, 6' tall, 200 pounds, with muscular build, and shaved head.

A second-hand report EPD has received is that two additional female victims have been raped on unknown dates, but within the same week, also in the same general area. One of these two incidents involved a similar suspect: black male, 6' tall, 200 pounds, with muscular build, and shaved head.

## Personal Safety Tips

- Use the buddy system when walking after dark. You should know the person you are walking with well enough to trust them.
- Walk in lighted areas as much as possible and don't walk too close to bushes, alleyways or other places where attackers can conceal themselves
- Be aware of your surroundings at all times
- Walk confidently and don't avoid eye contact
- Don't let strangers into your 'space.' Keep plenty of distance between yourself and people you don't wish to approach you.





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- Don't stop to talk with strangers asking for directions or other types of help as this can be a ploy to get close for an attack.
- If you feel you are in danger or being followed, call 9-1-1
- If grabbed, fight back and make as much noise as possible.
- Do not get into someone's car even if they display a weapon. It is better
  to fight back in the street where help is closer at hand and other people
  may hear your calls for help.

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